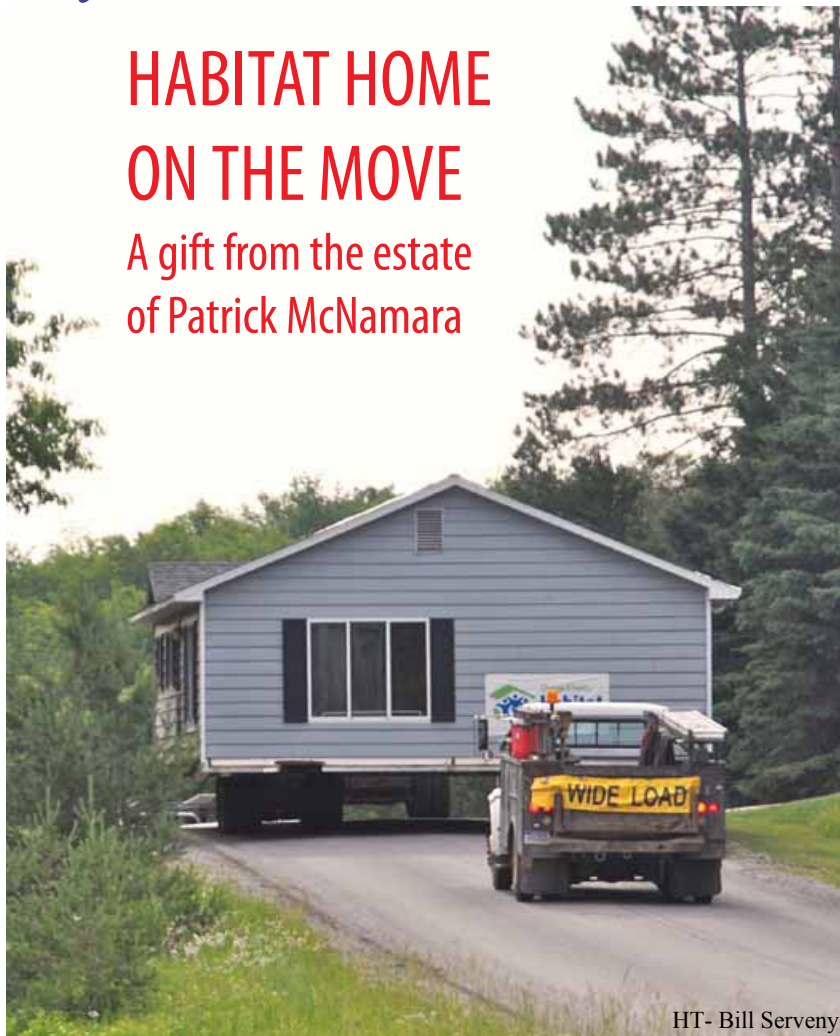


HABITAT HOME ON THE MOVE

**A gift from the estate
of Patrick McNamara**



HT- Bill Serveny

By Lorene Parshall
Staff Writer, Gaylord Herald Times

GAYLORD - Monday, the ranch house of the late Dr. Patrick McNamara was removed from its foundation at 1050 Red Finch.

The House, which will become a Habitat for Humanity home for a low-income family, was transported to its new location at 1337 Knoch Road by J&R Movers.

McNamara was a Gaylord radiologist who died in a plane crash near Vanderbilt in October 2009. He owned three planes that he flew for business and pleasure and reports suggest that he was trying to make an emergency landing of his 1946 Aeronca Fixed-wing plane on I-75 when he crashed.

The house, was donated to the Otsego County Habitat for Humanity by McNamara's estate. According to his brother, Robert McNamara, the Doctor would have been really pleased with the family's decision.

"The family knew we wanted to do some charity work with Pat's estate, but we weren't sure what to do," Robert said. "Tracy Secord has an office in my building and we got to talking about her being involved with Habitat for Humanity. We decided that donating the house was the perfect thing we could do. My brother was never for handouts or entitlements, but he was all for helping others if they wanted to better themselves. Pat was a Hard-working guy and this would have just suited him perfectly."

Families who become Habitat homeowners must go through an application process; meet certain criteria as far as employment and finances; and commit to investing hundreds of hours of volunteer time working on Habitat homes and assisting with fundraising. Habitat's motto is "A Hand Up, Not a Hand Out."

The house will be totally renovated before a family takes possession, according to Otsego County Habitat for Humanity's Executive Director, Donna Quandt. Renovations will include the implementation of energy-efficient standards that will insure low utility costs for the future low-income family. What family will receive the house has not yet been determined by the Habitat board of directors. "We are in the process of making that decision right now," said Quandt. "The house will probably be ready for someone to move in by this fall."

The renovations will be paid for through Habitat funds. Quandt intends to keep the costs down with the aid of volunteers and donations. Commitments to participate have already been made by the Boyne Valley Catholic Youth Group, Pepsi bottling group, Home Depot, Lowe's, Kohl's and other community groups and individuals. "We've requested that Gov. Jennifer Granholm volunteer

on our site as part of the "Michigan Build Michigan Initiative," said Quandt. "But, we're not sure yet whether she'll be able to participate or not."

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some charity work."*

**Bob
McNamara**



THE RANCH HOUSE of the late Dr. Patrick McNamara is moved to a new location where it will become a Habitat for Humanity home after a complete renovation. Above Rick Banaszak, Construction Supervisor and Donna Quandt, Executive Director of Habitat, attach a Habitat for Humanity banner to the side of the house before the move.

THE HOUSE DONATED TO Otsego County Habitat for Humanity by the Estate of Dr. Patrick McNamara is on its way to a new location.